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する必要がある。

この発明は、その類明の範囲内であれば、当以 者がどのように変形することも可能である。

4. 図山のM単な説明

部 1 間はこの毎明の尿道カテーテルの斜視圏、 第 2 間は乗 1 関の 2 - 2 拡大破断面図である。

10…見道カテーテル 12…登状体

1 4 … 先 對 部

36

1

25 ... コーティング

出 51 人 シー・アール・パード・インコーボレーテッド 代 理 人 井 理 士 阿 田 英 毎

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(19) 日本国特許庁 (JP)

OD特許出願公開

昭58—118766

12 公開特許公報(A)

Spint, Cl.3 A 61 M 25/00

識別記号

庁内整理番号 6917-4C

昭和58年(1983)7月14日 43公開

発明の数 審査請求 未請求

(全 4 頁)

60カテーテルおよびその使用方法

20特

昭57-235115

22出

昭57(1982)12月22日

優先權主張 **301981年12月31日**30米国(US)

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発明の名称

カテーテルおよびその使用方法

- 特許消水の時間
- 額水性の進合体で形成された単性を有する 組長い骨状体と、体内に強入するための先端部と から成り、前記先端部が乾燥状態において比較的 剛性を有し、かつ体液に接触した状態においては 比較的強性を有するような照射を有するととを特 改とするカテーテル。
- (2) 部材が頑水性の食合体で形成された前紀先 郷部に病した製水性の順合体のコーティングであ るととを特徴とする特許額状の順則第1項記載の
- (3) 期水性の混合体が一般に体液に対して不容 であるととを特徴とする特許請求の期間報2項形 蚁のカテーテル。
- (4) 先端 部が弓形に形成されていることを特徴 とする特許湖水の城田第1項配収のカテーテル。
 - カチーテルがフォリーカテーテルであると

とを特決とする好許顕状の順囲お1項制設のカテ

- カテーテルが静脉カテーテルであるととを 特徴とする解析の水の傾囲に1項記載のカテーテ
- 部材がドーピニルピロリドン。アクリレー トゴよびメタクリレートより移る群から選択され る単析体から形成された斑状性のコーティングで あるととを特徴とする特許が共の問題不工順記数 のカテーテル。
- といめ強性を有すると共に頑水性を有する 材料で形成した展消カテーテルまた対離脈カテー テルを容易に強入させると共に組織を期待すると とたくそのカテーテルを保持するための使用方法 であって、カテーテルの少さくとも先端部に発せ 状態において比較的開始を有するコーティンを持 才 段階と、前右矢線部にコーティングを直したカ テーテルを体内に抽入する段階と、前尺コーティ ングが体液中の水分の一部を吸収して比較的神味 を付けるようになる政州とから政ることを行訴と

1寸るカナーテルの使用方纹。

3. 我明心律相交换明

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カナーテルの使用に知因する組織に対する明瞭
を少なくしようとする場合に、次の加入の生から、から、カケーテルの加入がの中の加入がある。から、ある時代の明になって、必必がある。からである。からないないでは、その光明が列散を支出し、カテーテルの先端的がある。を発明し、カテーテルの先端的がある。を発明し、カテーテルの先端的がある。を発明し、カテーテルの先端的がある程度の明性を行し、カテーティの先端的がある程度の明性を行し、カテーティーを表現している。

(3)

するカテーテルが開示されているが、 そのカテーテルの先端部の剛性が、カテーテルの使用中にも 減少しないため、特殊内壁を刺激し易いという問題点がある。

これらのカテーテルはシリコンの資水性に注目 してシリコン場合体で形成され、次いで、Nーピニルピロリドン(NVP)、アクリレートやよびメタクリレートモノマーより得られる類水性のコーティングが施される。

メリル (Merrill)の米田特許 年 4.0 5 5.6 8 2 号にはカテーテルが開示されているが、このカテーテルが開示されて可水性を付与した。NVPに発験させて可水性を付与したが、電野放射線をこのNVPを衛布したカテーテルに十分吸収させたシリコン型の本体のでは、カラースの呼称による現水性のするとは、カテーテルのでは、サールのでは、サールのでは、サールのでは、サールのでは、サールの関性には、サールの関性には、サールの関性には、サールの関性には、サールの関性には、サールの関性には、サールの関性には、サールを関係を表している。

シェパード (Shepherd) 他の米国等許引5566874

ルの挿入が移易であるが、 所入後は先端部の剛性 が緩和されて、組織に刺激を与えにくくなるよう なカテーナルを提供する。

カナーナルの各部の物理的特性を異なったものにする方が領ましい例として尿道カテーナルがあるが、との場合、カナーナルの先明部に曲率を持たせると共にある程度研性を付与して、曲がっていたり上部で映くなっていたりする尿道内へのカナーナルの油入を容易にするとが望ましい。

(4)

後来型の尿道カテーテルや解射カテーテルの通 のの使用にかいて、カテーテルの解析が上の根 いととに根因して、カテーテルの解析による組織 への調度が大きた間間点である。 この希明はカテ ーテルの強入時には比較的脚性が高いが、一旦体 内に挿入されてしまえば、その神性が凝和されて ッテーテルと使する組織が顕微を受けにくくなる よりなカテーテル先期の構造に関する。 この相叫は比較的が性のある欠然コムまたはレリコンコム等の合成ゴムで形成した収泊カテーナルの先端配に、グラフティング等によって関水性のコーティングを施し、その先端配に関係を与えるものである。ことで使用するコーティングはメリルの特許やシェバード他の特許に明示されているものである。

(7)

通する。排尿ポート18の内側には、脊状体12 を取り着いて、パルーンすなわち膨張可能な保持 パッグ20が配設される。との保持パッグ20は 従来通りの方法で管状体12に密層扱合される。 能方向に延出する多强腔(図示せず)は影響ポー ト22まで進する。この膨張ポート22によって 保持パッグ20の内部とアームすなわちパルブ端 部24が濾通されるので、パルブ陽部から空気を 導入して保持パッグ20を修復させて、カテーテ ルの先端部14を膀胱内に供持することができる。 や状体12はシリコンゴム等の比較的弾性のあ るエラストマーで形成される。ととで使用される エラストマーは疎水性であると共に、体液と般軸 しても化学反応を朝とされい材質である。この比 飲的媒性の高い尿道カテーテル10の尿道内への 加入を容易にするために、先端部14には預合は をコーティングして判性をもたせてある。このコ ーティング25は、好ましい実施例に示すように、 保持パッグ20の圧縮26から先期間14にわた って勝される。コーティング25は奄鎮状態にか

度の呼しい例一組成の材料でお成されたコングを施していないカテーテルの例性に比べ もくはない。

この分別の主な目的は、明性のあるコーティング部分に現水性を与えておき、水分を吸収または 吸附させて、その剛性を飼和させることによって、 カテーテル先期部に段離する組織に対する刺激が 配こらないようにすることである。

この当山の別の目的は、次の間面に基づく発明 の現場例の詳細な説明によって登場に開発できょう。

次にとの角明の一世有例を図画に従って説明する。 第1回かよびヤ2回を認明すると、図中10 はシリコンゴム型の良道カテーテルであって、内軸して何用されると共に一窓の無見透明を有する。 は 4 のフ・リー (Foley) カテーテル 1 0 は先期が 1 4 を有する質状体 1 2 より吹る。 カテーテル 1 0 はた明に (図示せず) が形成してあり、 との内腔 によってじょうご高材 1 6 と非思ポート 1 8 が順

(8)

町水性のコーティング25は、カテーテルの先端部14に対してある程度の期性を付与して明入を容易にする方法であるが、一旦時代内に超入されたら、この先列部14が強性体に変化して、対
胱の内壁を刺激することがないような物質を選択

(19) Patent Office of Japan (JP)

(12) Gazette of Unexamined Patent Applications (A)

(11) Unexamined Patent Application Publication [Kokai] No.: Showa 58-118,766

(43) Disclosure Date (laid open for inspection): July 14, 1983

(51) Int. Cl.³

Domestic Auxiliary Cl.

Patent Office Ref. No.

A 61 M 25/00

6917-4C

Request for examination: not yet filed

Number of claims: 2

(Total of 4 pages)

(54) Title of the Invention:

CATHETER AND METHOD FOR ITS USE

(21) Patent Application No.: Showa 57-235,115

(22) Application Date: December 22, 1982

Claims Priority: (32) December 31, 1981 (33) USA (31) 336290

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SPECIFICATION

1. Title of the Invention

Catheter and Method for Its Use

2. Claims

- (1) A catheter comprising a slender tubular body having flexibility that is made of a hydrophobic polymer, and a tip portion for insertion into the body, which tip portion has a member that is relatively rigid when dry and is relatively elastic when it has come into contact with bodily fluids.
- (2) A catheter according to Claim 1, whereby the member is a hydrophilic polymer coating that has been administered to said tip portion formed of a hydrophobic polymer.

- (3) A catheter according to Claim 2, whereby the hydrophilic polymer is generally insoluble in bodily fluids.
- (4) A catheter according to Claim 1, whereby the tip portion is formed so as to be curved.
- (5) A catheter according to Claim 1, whereby the catheter is a Foley catheter.
- (6) A catheter according to Claim 1, whereby the catheter is a venous catheter.
- (7) A catheter according to Claim 1, whereby the member is a hydrophilic coating formed from a monomer selected from the group consisting of N-vinyl pyrrolidone, acrylate and methacrylate.
- (8) A method of catheter use that involves easily inserting a urethral catheter or a venous catheter made of a material which is relatively elastic and hydrophobic, and also retaining that catheter without irritating tissues, which method comprises a step where a coating that is relatively rigid when dry is administered to at least the tip portion of the catheter, a step where the catheter in which said tip portion has been administered a coating is inserted into the body, and a step where said coating absorbs some of the moisture within the bodily fluids and becomes relatively elastic.

3. Detailed Description of the Invention

This invention relates to elastomer tubes used in medical instruments, and especially urethral catheters and venous catheters. This type of catheter is generally called an indwelling catheter because it is held within the urethra or vein for a long time. These catheters are regarded by the body as foreign materials, and so they have a not insignificant tendency to irritate the tissues with which they come into contact.

When trying to reduce tissue irritation resulting from catheter use, a problem arises on account of the need to impart a certain degree of rigidity to the tip of the insertion portion of the catheter so as to facilitate insertion of the catheter into the urethra or vein. By imparting rigidity to the catheter tip, it is evident that the tissue which this tip comes into contact with (i.e., the inside wall of the bladder or the vein) becomes readily subject to irritation. Hence, the present invention provides a catheter in which the catheter tip has some degree of rigidity prior to catheter insertion, so as to make catheter insertion easy, but in which the rigidity of the tip is mitigated following insertion, making it less likely to irritate tissue.

A urethral catheter serves here as an example of why it is desirable to make the physical properties of the various parts of the catheter different. In this case, along with providing the catheter tip with curvature, it is desirable to confer it with a certain degree of rigidity so as to facilitate catheter insertion into the urethra, which twists and narrows at the top.

Shoney's U.S. Patent No. 3,865,666 discloses urethral and other catheters, but these catheters do not have sufficient structural rigidity. That is, when this type of catheter is inserted into the urethra in order to place it in the bladder, the tubular portion of the catheter twists, thereby occluding or reducing the drainage lumen. Hence, it is necessary to adopt a structure in which occlusion or narrowing of the expansion cavity for inflating the balloon in order to keep the

catheter tip within the bladder is not allowed to occur. Shoney's patent discloses a catheter having a tip with a relatively high rigidity, but because the rigidity of this catheter tip does not decrease even during catheter use, the tip tends to irritate the inner wall of the bladder.

These catheters are made of a silicone polymer because of the hydrophobic properties of silicone, following which a hydrophilic coating obtained from N-vinyl pyrrolidone (NVP), acrylate and methacrylate monomers is administered.

Merrill's U.S. Patent No. 4,055,682 discloses a catheter in which the main portion made of silicone was brought into contact with NVP and thereby conferred with hydrophilic properties, after which this NVP-coated catheter was made to thoroughly absorb ionizing irradiation. Because the layer of hydrophilic polymer in Merrill's patent is very thin, even when the polymer has been coated on, the rigidity of the catheter when dry does not actually increase compared with the rigidity of a catheter that has not been administered a coating made of a material having the same composition and degree of polymerization.

U.S. Patent Nos. 3,566,874 and 3,695,921, granted to Shepherd *et al.*, disclose natural rubber or synthetic rubber Foley urethral catheters. In these catheters, a hydrophilic coating of acrylate or methacrylate polymer, for example, has been administered onto the outside surface, the purpose being to reduce the irritation and infection that arise when these catheters are used. However, there are problems with the use of these catheters. Namely, because a hydrophilic coating has been administered over essentially the entire outside surface of the portion that is inserted into the urethra or the vein, as noted above for Patent No. 3,566,874, the hydrophilic layer has a high rigidity when dry.

A major problem in the normal use of prior-art urethral catheters and venous catheters is the irritation of tissue due to contact with the catheter, which irritation results from the relatively high rigidity of the catheter. The present invention relates to a catheter tip construction wherein the rigidity of the catheter at the time of insertion is relatively high; however, once the catheter has been inserted into the body, this rigidity is mitigated and the tissue in contact with the catheter becomes less likely to be irritated.

This invention is characterized in that a hydrophilic coating is administered by means of grafting or the like onto the tip of a urethral catheter or a venous catheter formed of a relatively elastic natural rubber or synthetic rubber such as silicone rubber, in this way imparting rigidity to the catheter tip. The coating used here is of a type disclosed in the patents granted to Merrill and to Shepherd *et al.*

U.S. Patent No. 3,695,921 granted to Shepherd *et al.* mentions a hydrophilic acrylate or methacrylate coating having rigidity in a dry state. This has been incorporated into the present invention. U.S. Patent No. 4,055,682 granted to Merrill mentions primarily a catheter having rigidity. This too has been incorporated into the present invention. In this case, rigidity is conferred by the absorption of ionizing radiation, such as by inducing such absorption in tip member 36.

However, the main disclosure made in Merrill's patent relates to the grafting of NVP onto the main portion of a silicone catheter. Yet, the rigidity of the catheter when dry following such coating is not any higher than the rigidity of a catheter that has not been administered a coating formed of a material having the same composition and the same degree of polymerization.

The main object of this invention is to confer hydrophilic properties to a coated area having rigidity so as to induce the absorption or adsorption of moisture and mitigate the rigidity, in this way keeping tissue that comes into contact with the catheter tip from becoming irritated.

Other objects of this invention shall become readily apparent from the following detailed description of the invention based on the diagrams.

An embodiment of this invention shall now be described in accordance with the diagrams. Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, 10 represents a urethral catheter made of silicone rubber. This catheter represents an improvement over prior-art Foley catheters which have a fixed drainage rate when inserted and used. This catheter 10 comprises a tubular body 12 having a tip portion 14. A lumen (not shown) is formed in the catheter 10, and a funnel member 16 and a drainage port 18 communicate by means of this lumen. A balloon, this being an inflatable retaining bag 20, is wrapped about the tubular body 12 and disposed on the inner side of the drainage port 18. This retaining bag 20 is closely bonded to the tubular body 12 by a prior-art method. The inflatable lumen (not shown) that extends in the lengthwise direction reaches to an inflation port 22. Because the interior of the retaining bag 20 and the arm or valve end 24 communicate by means of this inflation port 22, air is introduced from the valve end, the retaining bag 20 is inflated, and the catheter end 14 can be held within the bladder.

The tubular portion 12 is formed of an elastomer such as silicone rubber that is relatively elastic. The elastomer used here is a material which is hydrophobic and does not give rise to chemical reactions when it comes into contact with bodily fluids. In order to facilitate the introduction of this relatively highly elastic urethral catheter 10 into the urethra, the tip 14 has been coated with a polymer in order to make it rigid. This coating 25 is provided from the base 26 of the retaining bag 20 all the way to the tip 14, as shown in the preferable embodiment. It is necessary that the coating 25 be relatively rigid when dry, that it be generally insoluble in bodily fluids and hydrophilic, and also that it have relatively good elasticity when soaked with urine or blood. Therefore, this coating 25 is carried out with a hydrophilic polymer in which N-vinyl pyrrolidone (NVP), acrylate, methacrylate monomer or the like serves as the precursor. This has been disclosed in the patents granted to Merrill and to Shepherd *et al.* Hydrophilic polymers in which NVP, acrylate or methacrylate monomers serve as the precursors are given here simply as typical examples. Hence, it is possible to use other polymers, provided these impart rigidity to the catheter tip 14 when dry, and also have the property of becoming quite elastic within a given period of time upon absorbing bodily fluids.

It is necessary that the hydrophilic coating 25 selected be a substance which confers a certain degree of rigidity to the catheter tip 14 and thus facilitates insertion, but has the quality of, once the tip has been inserted into the bladder, changing into an elastic body that does not irritate the inner wall of the bladder.

This invention can be variously modified by those acquainted with the art, provided this is done within the scope of the invention.

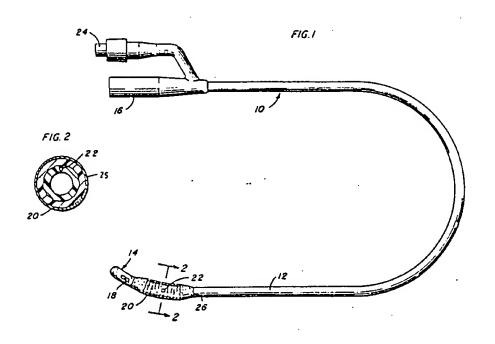
4. Brief Description of the Diagrams

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a urethral catheter according to the present invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged cross-sectional diagram taken along line 2-2 in Fig. 1.

10 – urethral catheter; 12 – tubular body; 14 – tip; 25 – coating

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TRANSLATION FROM JAPANESE INTO ENGLISH

I, Jeanne De Tar, Manager of THE LANGUAGE SERVICE, Inc., translation bureau at 806 Main Street, Poughkeepsie, New York, hereby certify that the attached translation of Unexamined Patent Application Publication [Kokai] No.: Showa 58-118,766, titled "Catheter and Method for Its Use," was prepared by Frederic Metreaud from the original document submitted to him in the Japanese language.

I further certify that I know Frederic Metreaud to be a professional translator thoroughly familiar with the Japanese and English languages and that the attached translation is a true, complete, and correct English version of the original document to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Jeanne De Tar

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